FOSTER & GANE

Lady Elizabeth Russell, Baroness of Thornhaugh (1568 - 1611) - Watercolour on paper by George Perfect Harding (1780 - 1853)

£6,800

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REF: 6113

Height: 40.5 cm (15.9")

Width: 36 cm (14.2")

Description

A three-quarter length portrait, facing, in a sumptuous dress with a large divided ruff, shoulder jewels (one with a naked man holding a crown and a small white dog), and wearing magnificent jewellery at her breast. Holding an ornate fan in her right hand, her left hand in front of her waist. The subject's hair dressed with jewels, all on a mottled ochre background.

Signed lower left in gilded writing 'GP Harding Fecit' and framed in the original gilded composition surround.

England, circa 1820

Condition: In fantastic original condition and framed in its original gilded composition surround. Re-glazed in non-reflective museum glass.

Harding was a Regency copyist mainly known for his miniature watercolour replicas of earlier portraits. He exhibited at the Royal Academy and the Society of British Artists between 1802 and 1840, working mainly in London and in country houses where he made watercolour copies of oil portraits, many painted on a small scale.

Interestingly, Henry Bone, R.A., painted a version of this painting on enamel, now in the National Trust Collection at Kingston Lacey. Their description suggests the original painting is at Woburn Abbey (object number: NT 1250555).

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